



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



Brussels, 5 June 2008
10394/08 (Presse 164)

Council adopts regulation on export and import of dangerous chemicals

The Council adopted today¹ a regulation on export and import of dangerous chemicals with a view to improving the protection of human health and the environment at international level and in particular in developing countries ([3604/08](#)).

The regulation establishes the conditions for exports and imports of certain chemicals from and into the EU. It also implements the Rotterdam Convention on the prior informed consent procedure for certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides in international trade².

¹ The decision was taken without discussion at the Environment Council meeting
² More information about the Convention of Rotterdam and the PIC procedure can be found on www.pic.int

P R E S S

The regulation provides for three different procedures that exporters and national authorities have to apply, depending on the status of the respective chemical:

- the export notification procedure has to be applied for hazardous chemicals that are banned or severely restricted in the EU but do not qualify for notification to the Convention;
- the requirement for explicit consent of the importing country prior to any export applies to hazardous chemicals that qualify for notification but are not yet subject to the Convention and
- the full Convention prior informed consent procedure has to be applied for hazardous chemicals subject to the Convention. So far, 39 chemicals are covered but the number is expected to increase.

The regulation was adopted at first-reading under the Parliament-Council co-decision procedure.
